

Sri K. PUTTASWAMY.—Are the Government aware that an answer was given on the floor of this House that promotion from Second Class to First Class is governed by strict seniority?

Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—I am not aware of any such answer given.

Reversion of decision to open Toddy Shops in 1953-54.

Q.—285. Sri N. C. NAGAI AH REDDY (Goribidnur).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) whether Sri T. Channiah, Excise Minister, announced to the Press that two hundred toddy shops would be reopened during the year 1953-54;

(b) if so, the reasons for such a step;

(c) whether that decision was reversed within 48 hours and the reasons therefor?

A.—Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO (Minister for Law and Education).—

(a) Yes.

(b) According to the Prohibition Policy pursued by the Government during 1947-48, a 20 per cent cut of the excise shops and of the quantities of exciseable articles supplied to the shops was effected. During 1948-49, total prohibition by districts was introduced, starting with Kolar, Tumkur and Chitaldrug, and thus the prohibition policy was totally revised. But the shops closed as per old policy were not reopened. As there was demand for the reopening of the said shops, Government decided to reopen them excluding the 5-mile dry belt area along the Madras border, in all wet areas.

(c) The decision was not reversed in 48 hours. As there were representations from several quarters to the effect that such a step would

be considered as a reversal of the Prohibition Policy, it was decided to maintain the *status quo*.

Sri N. C. NAGAI AH REDDY.—“As there was demand for the reopening of the said shops, Government decided to reopen them” ಎಂದು ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಹೇಳಿದ್ದೀರಲ್ಲ, ಯಾರು ತಮ್ಮನ್ನು reopen ಮಾಡ ಬೇಕೆಂದು ಕೇಳಿಕೊಂಡರು ? ಯಾರಾದರೂ ನಿರ್ಣಯಗಳನ್ನು ಕಳುಹಿಸಿದ್ದರೆ ?

Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—Representations from the public were made.

Sri H. C. LINGA REDDY.—When was the Excise portfolio changed?

Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—It was not changed and has not been changed.

Point of order regarding one Minister answering for another while both are present.

Sri M. LINGANNA.—I rise to a point of order. With regard to the issue raised whether any Minister could answer on behalf of any other Minister, so far as that aspect is concerned, the Chair was pleased to give a ruling that any Minister in the absence of any other Minister, could answer on behalf of the Minister who was absent. But here in view of the fact that the Excise portfolio has not been changed and in view of the fact that the Excise Minister is present in the House, I take exception to the fact that another Minister should be allowed to answer for him. I am not basing my observations on this particular aspect from any other point of view; I am doing so from the point of view that the procedure should be regular, from the point of view of constitutional propriety, that it should not be allowed. So from these points of view, I submit that whenever there is the Minister of the concerned portfolio and for which he is responsible, he should be asked to answer the questions pertaining to his Department. But whenever the particular Minister is absent, in his

(SRI M. LINGANNA).

absence, your goodself was pleased to say, that another Minister could answer. But here a different kind of situation has arisen. The concerned Minister being president and the portfolio not being changed. Then that Minister alone should be directed to answer relevant supplementaries in relation to the Department. So I submit there is a point of order.

Sri A. BHEEMAPPA NAIK.—I also beg to submit that it would cast reflections on the Minister concerned that he is unable to answer questions. Unless that is the case and if he cannot himself answer the supplementaries though he is sitting here, why was his name printed? When his name is printed and if he does not answer

An HON'BLE MEMBER.—His name is not printed.

Sri A. BHEEMAPPA NAIK.—Even here, there is a mistake in printing. It would reflect this way, Sir, that he is not capable of answering and therefore someone else is answering for him.

Sri MULKA GOVINDA REDDY.—Sir, in addition to what has already been said, I beg to submit that if the Chief Minister is present and if he feels necessary, he may intervene, not frequently but once in a way, if the concerned Minister is giving something which is not pertinent to the question. But, in the present case, we take extreme objection to the way in which questions have been answered by another Hon'ble Minister, though the concerned Minister is present.

Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—Sir, there is no point of order in view of the fact of joint responsibility of the Ministry. There is no constitutional issue either. Recently all the files on the subject had come to me in connection with a judgment regarding a case. I had dealt with it and I am therefore, answering here also.

Sri J. MOHAMED IMAM.—Is it because that Sri T. Channiah is

personally concerned with the Press statement regarding opening of 200 toddy shops, or is it because that some allegations had been made against him that there is a change in the personnel of the Ministry to answer questions?

Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—In connection with a case in respect of the Excise Department, the entire records had come to me and I had to deal with similar questions. It was I who drafted all these answers and therefore I am answering these questions.

Mr. SPEAKER.—It is stated by the Government that there is no change of portfolio; as such, it is usual for the concerned Minister to answer such questions. But when the action of the concerned Minister is questioned, I feel it is better—because it may be very delicate in some cases for the concerned Minister to answer—that on such occasions, another Minister may be allowed or permitted to answer on his behalf. Any how, I feel it is better for the concerned Minister to answer as far as possible. But nothing prevents other Ministers whenever they know more information about a question to answer on behalf of the concerned Minister.

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಫ್. ಸಿ. ನಾಗಯ್ಯರೆಡ್ಡಿ.—ಸ್ವಾಮಿ, 48 ಗಂಟೆಗಳೊಳಗೆ reverse ಆಗಿಲ್ಲವೆಂದು ಹೇಳಿದ್ದೀರಿ. ಮೊದಲು ಒಂದು ಪ್ರೆಸ್ ಸ್ಟೇಟ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಕೊಟ್ಟು ಅಮೇರಿ ಅದರಂತೆ ನಡೆಯಲಿಲ್ಲವೆಂದರೆ ಏನರ್ಥ? (ಎ)ಭಾಗಕ್ಕೆ 'yes' ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿ (ಸಿ)ಗೆ it was decided to maintain status quo ಎಂದರೆ ಬದಲಾಯಿಸಿದ ಹಾಗಾಗಲಿಲ್ಲವೇ?

Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—As there were representations from several quarters to the effect that such a step would be considered as a reversal of the Prohibition Policy it was decided to maintain the status quo. This is given in the answer itself.

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಫ್. ಸಿ. ನಾಗಯ್ಯರೆಡ್ಡಿ.—ಪ್ರೆಸ್ ಸ್ಟೇಟ್ ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತು ತೆರೆಯುತ್ತಿರುವೆಂದು ಹೇಳಿ, ಹಾಗೆ ಮಾಡಲಿಲ್ಲ; 'decision was not reversed in 48 hours' ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದರೆ ಏನರ್ಥ?

Mr. SPEAKER.—Government have not admitted that it was reversed in 48 hours. It was not reversed in 48 hours is the answer.

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಸ್. ಗೋಪಾಲಗೌಡ.—ಪ್ರೆಸ್ ಸ್ಟೇಟ್ ಮೆಂಟ್ ಕೊಡುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಮುಂಚೆ ಕ್ಯಾಬಿನೆಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ವಿಷಯವನ್ನು ತೀರ್ಮಾನ ಮಾಡಲಿಲ್ಲವೇ ?

Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—The discussions in the Cabinet, I think, cannot be discussed here.

Mr. SPEAKER.—It is treated as confidential. Any other question.

ಶ್ರೀ ಪಿ. ಆರ್. ನಾಯ್ಡು.—ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರು ಪಾನ ನಿರೋಧ ನೀತಿಯನ್ನು ಬದಲಾಯಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಯೆ ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಎ. ಜಿ. ರಾಮಚಂದ್ರರಾವ್.—ಇಲ್ಲ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಪಿ. ಆರ್. ನಾಯ್ಡು.—ಹಾಗಾದರೆ ಅನೇಕ ಜನರಿಂದ ಮನವಿಗಳು ಬಂದರೆ ಏಕೆ ಅಂಗಡಿಗಳನ್ನು ತೆಗೆಯಬಾರದು ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಎ. ಜಿ. ರಾಮಚಂದ್ರರಾವ್.—ಯಾವ ರೀತಿ ಈ ವಿಚಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಂದುವರಿಯಬೇಕು, ಏನು ಮಾಡ ಮಾಡಬೇಕು ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರು ಆಗಾಗ ಯೋಚನೆಮಾಡಿ ತೀರ್ಮಾನ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಅನೇಕ ಸಂದರ್ಭಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಜೆಗಳ ಮನವಿಗೂ ಮನ್ನಣೆ ಕೊಡುತ್ತಾರೆ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಪಿ. ಆರ್. ನಾಯ್ಡು.—ಹಾಗಾದರೆ ಪಾನ ನಿರೋಧ ನೀತಿಯಿಂದ ಜನರಿಗೆ ಒಳ್ಳೆಯದಲ್ಲವೇ ?

Mr. SPEAKER.—This question was discussed at considerable length at the outset of the sitting of this Session.

ಶ್ರೀ ಜಿ. ಮಹಮ್ಮದ್ ಇಮಾಂ.—As there were several representations from several quarters .. ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದ್ದು ಯಾವ ಕ್ಯಾಟರ್‌ನಿಂದ ಮನವಿ ಬಂದದ್ದು ?

Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—Some parts of Kolar District.

ಶ್ರೀ ಜಿ. ಮಹಮ್ಮದ್ ಇಮಾಂ.—ಬೇರೆ ಡಿಸ್ಟ್ರಿಕ್ಟ್‌ಗಳಿಂದ ಬರಲಿಲ್ಲವೇ ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಎ. ಜಿ. ರಾಮಚಂದ್ರರಾವ್.—ಬೇರೆ ಕಡೆ ಯಿಂದಲೂ ಬಂದಿದೆ, ಕೋಲಾರದಿಂದಲೂ ಬಂದಿದೆ.

Mr. SPEAKER.—There is no change.

Grant of toddy vending license to Contractor Sri Thimmappa.

Q.—295. Sri A. BHEEMAPPA NAIK (Molakalmuru).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) whether one Sri Thimmappa was the Contractor for the toddy shops in Bangalore City and Civil Area for the year 1952-53 ;

(b) whether he applied for the tapping of date trees in Goribidnur Taluk for the year under question ;

(c) whether he was granted trees in that taluk ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Madras Government protested against tapping toddy in that area ;

(e) whether the grant of tapping was cancelled subsequently ;

(f) whether there was any assurance given before auction sale for the year 1952-53 that the trees would be given at Goribidnur Taluk alone ;

(g) whether he applied for compensation since he was given trees at a more distant place after cancelling at Goribidnur ;

(h) whether the application for such compensation was rejected by Government ;

(i) whether he has renewed the same application this year ;

(j) whether he has been granted the vending of toddy license for 1953-54 also, even though he failed to give the highest bid in open auction ?

A.—Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO (Minister for Law and Education).—

(a) No.

(b) to (i) Does not arise in view of reply to (a).

(j) He has been given the toddy vending license. He did not bid at the sale for toddy shops.

Sri A. BHEEMAPPA NAIK.—I am sorry, Sir, there is a mistake in my first question. Instead of 1951-52, I have stated it as 1952-53.

Will the Government be pleased to state whether Sri Thimmappa was a Contractor for 1951-52 ?

Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—I believe, he was.

Sri A. BHEEMAPPA NAIK.—In view of this answer, will the Government be pleased to state whether he applied for tapping of toddy trees in Goribidnur Taluk for the year under question ?

Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—He applied.

Sri A. BHEEMAPPA NAIK.—Was he granted trees for tapping in that taluk ?